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TO:

Examiner Jane J. Zara

COMPANY:

U.S. Patent Office

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FROM:

FAX NO.:

Jeff Lloyd

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February 21, 2003

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MESSAGE:

Re:

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/955,174; filed September 19, 2001

CONTROL OF NK CELL FUNCTION AND SURVIVAL

BY MODULATION OF SHIP ACTIVITY

Our Docket No.: USF-150CX

Attached hereto:

1. Preliminary Amendment

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT Docket No. USF-T150CX Serial No. 09/955,174

#12/ phe

Jeff Lloyd, Patent Atterney

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner

Jane J. Zara

Art Unit

1635

Applicant(s)

William G. Kerr

Serial No.

09/955,174

Filed

September 19, 2001

For

September 19, 2001

Control of NK Cell Function and Survival by Modulation of SHIP Activity

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the application identified above as follows:

In the claims:

Please substitute the following claims:

Claim 5 (amended):

5. The method of Claim 4 in which the genetic construct_comprises an anti-sense-polynucleotide, a polynucleotide that bindS to SHIP mRNA, a nucleic acid that hybridizes to a SHIP mRNA, an interfering RNA specific for SHIP mRNA, a recombinant retroviral vector, a ribozyme, an RNA aptamer, a peptidomimetic inhibitor of SHIP function, or a combination of any of the foregoing.